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NPIC/TSG/RED/SRB-082-70 27 October 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Research & Engineering Division, TSG

SUBJECT : Report on Completion of Contract for Improved Rear

Projection Screen

1. This report summarizes the results of the work performed under
Contract , the purpose of which was,
"to conduct studies and develop and fabricate materials required for an
Improved Screen for Rear Projection Viewers." The need for this work
was generated by a requirement to improve the characteristics of the
rear projection screen in order that it would not limit the quality of
the projected image as it does on currently available screens. This
was accomplished through a development which is considered to be a
technical break-through. Further details on this development are pre-
sented in paragraph 6.

- 2. The total authorized funds for the original contract were This figure also represents the total amount expended.
- 3. Work under this contract was performed by the Electro-Optics Department of the Electronic Research Laboratory, Corning Glass Works, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 4. The original period of performance under this contract was 15 June 1968 to 15 September 1969. Due to unavoidable delays caused by scheduling problems with sub-contractors, the latter date was extended, by amendments, to 30 June 1970.
- 5. During the first nine months of the contract life, eight (8) diffusive screens having various combinations of screen characteristics were manufactured and the basic parameters of each measured. Subjective testing of these screens, along with a commercially available screen (Polacoat Lenscreen 60G), was conducted by the Boeing Aerospace Group under sub-contract to Corning. The results indicated that two of the screens produced by Corning were slightly more acceptable to the Photographic Interpreters. However, the narrow margins of improvement over the commercially available product were not considered to be significant enough to warrant the cost of production.
- was devoted to solving the technological problems associated with the production of a lenticular screen. A unique approach, by Corning,

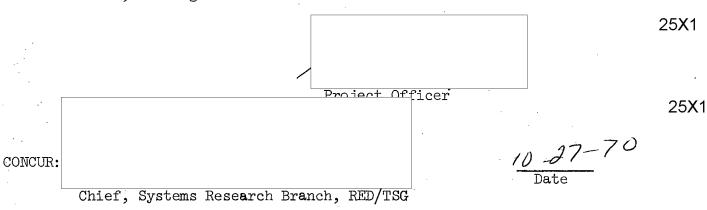
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GROUP 1
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SUBJECT: Report on Completion of Contract for Improved Rear Projection Screen

resulted in the development of an economically feasible screen having sought after parameters of increased transmission efficiency, minimum brightness variation, low reflectance, adequate resolution and improved contrast. This development was clearly a technical break-through, since relatively low cost, high performance lenticular screens had not previously been available.

- 7. Further work is necessary to optimize the optical characteristics of this 6" \times 6" sample lenticular screen and to scale it up in size for subsequent production. A follow-on contract will be required to produce two 30" \times 30" screens suitable for use in the PI Search and Scan Station.
- 8. The contractor's technical performance was very good, but his managerial performance was somewhat lacking, since his progress reports to us were sometimes late (the final report was not received until $l\frac{1}{2}$ months after the contract termination date). Funds were adequately handled and, I have been advised, were matched dollar for dollar by Corning. In view of these circumstances, I have rated the overall performance of the contractor, "Average".



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